INDEX
TO MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
8 JULY 1959

	PAGE
I. ADMINISTRATION	
1. Resumption of meetings after two month recess	1
2. Welcome to new members	1
3. Election of Officers	1
4. Chairman's Visit to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget	2
II. SUBMISSIONS	
1. General Services Administration	
a. Public Buildings Service	
(1) State Department Annex	
(a) Eighth floor dining room and related areas	2
(b) Screens for South Entrance	2
(c) Sculpture at South Entrance	2-3
(2) Gallaudet College	
(a) Kendall School, revised plans	3
(b) Auditorium	3
(3) Refrigeration plant for the Triangle Area	3
2. American Battle Monuments Commission	
a. General J.J.Pershing, revised plans for memorial	4
b. American Military Cemetery, Ardennes (Neuville) statue by C.Paul Jennewein	4
3. Department of the Army-Heraldic Branch	
a. Federal Aviation Agency Seal	4
b. Army Medical Service School (Dental) Fairbanks Medal	4
c. U.S.Air Force Distinguished Service Medal	5
III. INFORMAL SUBMISSIONS	5
IV. LEGISLATION	5

V. DISCUSSIONS

1. National Monument - Freedom Shrine 5

2. National Capital Planning Commission - Study by inter-agency committee on Federal Employee Parking 5

3. District of Columbia Government
Revisions in the Building Code Regulations 6

4. Department of the Treasury-Bureau of the Mint
a. Nevada Silver Centennial Medal 6

b. Colorado Commemorative Medal for the One Hundredth Anniversary of Settlement and U.S.Air Force Academy 6

5. Summary Report on Current Activities 6

MEMORANDUM MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C. 8 July 1959
9:15 a.m.

The Commission met pursuant to notice at 9:15 a.m., with David E. Finley presiding. Present were:

David E. Finley	L. R. Wilson, Secretary
Felix W. de Weldon	Susan E. Bennett, Admin. Asst.
Peter Hurd	Gilbert Halasz, Stenotypist
Douglas W. Orr	
William G. Perry	
Michael Rapuano	

I. ADMINISTRATION

1. Resumption of meetings after two month recess.

The Chairman expressed his pleasure that the beginning of the new fiscal year made funds available to hold meetings after a two month recess caused by insufficient funds to cover greater travel expenses of newly appointed members and by unavailability of supplemental funds to cover increased costs.

2. Welcome to new members.

The Chairman welcomed the new painter member, Mr. Peter Hurd, and expressed the pleasure of the members in having him associated with them in the work of the Commission. Mr. Hurd replied that he was glad to be a member of the Commission and looked forward to his work on the Commission. Mr. Ralph Walker, the new architect member of the Commission, was unable to be present becauseof illness but expected to be present at the August meeting. In welcoming Mr. Hurd and Mr. Walker, the Chairman specially noted the splendid services rendered in the work of the Commission by Mrs. Muir and Mr. Harrison, their predecessors as painter and architect members respectively.

3. Election of Officers.

The Chairman stated that since all except Mr. Rapuano had recently been reappointed as members of the Commission, the election of a Chairman and Vice Chairman was in order and called for nominations. Mr. deWeldon nominated Mr. Finley for reelection as Chairman. It was seconded and unanimously voted that the nominations for Chairman be closed.

After thanking the members for their support, Mr. Finley called for nominations for Vice Chairman. Mr. Perry nominated Mr. Douglas W. Orr for Vice Chairman. The motion was seconded and it was unanimously voted that the nominations be closed. Mr. Orr expressed his appreciation to the members.

8 July '59

4. Chairman's visit to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget
The Chairman reported on his conference with the Director of the Budget regarding 1) the financial status of the Commission of Fine Arts, and 2) authority to review designs, as outlined in the memorandum to the members dated 17 June 1959, a copy of which is made a part of the official record of the proceedings. The members expressed hope that the Chairman's visit would prove beneficial to the work of the Commission and thanked him for his efforts. EXHIBIT A

II. SUBMISSIONS

1. General Services Administration

a. Public Buildings Service

(1) State Department Annex:

(a) Eighth floor dining room and related areas
The members considered revised designs for the interiors of the state dining room and reception rooms on the eighth floor which were explained by Miss Mary Dunn for the firms of W.B.Ford Associates, of Detroit, and Nancy McClelland, Inc., of New York. The designs were well received and there was general agreement that the architectural features are in good scale and that the materials and colors used in the designs would lend beauty and dignity to the rooms. It was suggested that a more pleasing design for the side wall at the east end of the dining room would be achieved by placing the door in the center with panels on either side; that chandeliers would be preferable to the scheme of recessed lighting in the ceiling of the drawing room; and that an American Chippendale type of chair would be more suitable for the dining room then the one shown in the sketches. The designer expressed interest in these suggestions and will submit new designs as further progress is made.

(b) Screens for South Entrance
Mr. Hunter stated that in accordance with suggestions made at an earlier meeting with the Commission, an effort had been made to design planting on either side of the south entrance instead of the architectural screens for which a suitable design could not be achieved. The members considered that the general design was satisfactory but contained too many different kinds of foliage, and the suggestion was made that two plant types, ilex and box, be used. It was agreed that the design would be given further study.

(c) Sculpture at South Entrance
Revised drawings of the entrance, showing the sculptural groups, were presented, but, in the opinion of the members, were not yet satisfactory designs. It was suggested that

the designs be further studied and made to harmonize more with the building. Chairman was asked to write the Commissioner of Public Buildings Service informing him of the Commission's opinions on the State Department submissions. Copy of such letter to be made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT B

(2) Gallaudet College

(a) Kendall School, revised plans

Mr. Snyder presented revised drawings showing changes in windows at the end of buildings which had been re-studied in accordance with suggestions made by the members of the Commission at an earlier meeting. The design was approved as submitted and the Secretary was requested to write to the Commissioner of Public Buildings Service informing him of this action. Copy of such letter to be made a partof the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT C

(b) Auditorium

Mr. Snyder and Mr. Von Wald, architect for the office of Locraft Associates, presented the preliminary plans and design drawings for the auditorium, and Mr. Von Wald explained the architectural details of the design. The members were pleased with the solution of the problem and the design was approved as presented. The Secretary was requested to write a letter to the Commissioner of Public Buildings Service informing him of this action. Copy of such letter to be made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT D

(3) Refrigeration plant for the Triangle Area

Mr. Snyder and Mr. Frank Cole, architect, presented new studies for the location and design of a refrigeration plant and cooling tower to serve the buildings in the Federal Triangle. The suggestion was made that the machinery be placed under ground and that the cooling tower be constructed at the north side of the Great Plaza so that it be within the line of a future building in accordance with the original designs for the completion of the Federal Triangle. In this position this structure will not interfere with the development of the great plaza itself as a park. The Chairman was requested to write a letter to the Commissioner of Public Buildings informing him of this action. Copy of such letter to be made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT E

2. American Battle Monuments Commission

a. General John J. Pershing, revised plans for memorial

The members considered the revised drawings for the memorial to General Pershing and approved the general character and composition of the new scheme, consisting of four cascading pools in front of a stone memorial and a bronze statue of the General on foot. The Chairman was requested to write a letter to the Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission informing him of this action, and outlining suggestions for revisisions to be transmitted to the architect. Copy of this letter to be made a part of the official record of the proceedings.

EXHIBIT F

b. American Military Cemetery, Ardennes (Neuville) statue by C. Paul Jennewein

The Commission studied the photograph of the marble figure by C. Paul Jennewein, sculptor, to be placed on the north side of the Chapel in the American Military Cemetery at Neuville, France. The statue was commissioned after the chapel had been designed and some concern was felt by the American Battle Monuments Commission for the suitability of the figure that the sculptor had presented. Although the statue itself is considered to be a work of merit, the members also did not consider the figure suitable for the location and use intended at Neuville, and recommended that a more suitable setting be found for it by the ABMC. The Chairman was requested to write a letter to the Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission informing him of this action. Copy of such letter to be made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT G

3. Department of the Army - H eraldic Branch

a. Federal Aviation Agency Seal

The Secretary presented and explained revised designs for the above-mentioned seal which had been developed after conversations with Mr. deWeldon, sculptor member of the Commission. The members believed that the revised designs showed improvement and the Secretary was authorized to continue work with Mr. deWeldon to develop the design further and to bring back the finished design when it was ready.

b. Army Medical Service School (Dental) Fairbanks Medal

After viewing the pen and ink sketches submitted for the Fairbanks Medal, the members agreed that the design was unsuitable and that they could not approve the design. The Secretary was requested to write a letter to the Chief of the Heraldic Branch, Department of the Army, informing him of this action and conveying suggestions for changes recommended by the Commission. Copy of such letter to be made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT H

c. U.S.Air Force Distinguished Service Medal

The members considered three designs for the United States Air Force Distinguished Service Medal but none of them was considered satisfactory. This is the first of three medals which the Air Force will adopt for its own use, and is the highest peace-time award. The designs did not have the quality or distinction which the members believed a medal of such importance should have. They recommended that further study be given to the theme and details of the medal and that new designs should be developed. The Secretary was requested to write a letter to the Chief of the Heraldic Branch, Department of the Army, informing him of this action with a copy of such letter being made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT I

III. INFORMAL SUBMISSIONS

none

IV. LEGISLATION

none (See minutes of executive session of July 7 for actions on legislation)

V. DISCUSSIONS

1. National Monument - Freedom Shrine

The Chairman told the members that he had been asked to attend a conference to be held at the White House on 10 July 1959 to discuss the status of the proposed Freedom Shrine. He referred to a letter to the Chairman of the National Monument Commission dated 6 February 1958, in which the Commission of Fine Arts expressed the opinion that the site selected was not a suitable one for a monument of the size proposed. After considerable discussion, the members proposed their views as expressed in the letter to the Chairman of the National Monument Commission and authorized the Chairman to state these views at the conference to be held at the White House. A copy of the statement prepared for use at the conference is made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT J

2. National Capital Planning Commission - Study by inter-agency committee on Federal Employee Parking

Mr. Robert A. Keith of the Planning Commission appeared before the members and explained the study of the Inter=Agency Committee of Federal Employee parking and asked the Commission's views and cooperation. Mr. Keith was particularly interested in having the Commission's views as to which areas of the city were most blighted by parking lots. The members expressed great interest in the subject and said they would study the reportand express their views in a letter at an early date, a copy of such letter being made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT K

3. Districtof Columbia Government
Revisions in the Building Code Regulations
The Secretary reported that the Building Code for the District of Columbia was being revised and that he and the Chief of the Permit Branch, Department of Licenses and Inspections, believed it to be a favorable time, in view of the decisions regarding the sign at "Marty's Restaurant", to include in the District Building Code regulations for signs in the Shipstead-Luce Act Area. The Shipstead Luce Panel agreed to cooperate in formulating the text of a special section in the regulations which, after public hearing, will become partof the Building Code. The Commission approved taking this action and authorized the Secretary to work with the Chief of the Permit Branch and the Shipstead-Luce Panel to formulate such regulations, and expressed the hope that their adoption as part of the Building Code could be successfully accomplished. EXHIBIT L

4. Department of the Treasury - Bureau of the Mint

a. Nevada Silver Centennial Medal
The Chairman reported that he understood that Director of the Mint had produced the above named medal from dies supplied directly to him by the Nevada Centennial Commission without submitting the design to the Commission for advice. When asked about the matter, the Director stated that Congress had authorized the production of these medals on such short notice that there was not time to secure the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts. The members of the Commission were concerned that National Medals are being produced without there being opportunity for them to carry out their responsibilities.

b. Colorado Commemorative Medal for One Hundredth Anniversary of Settlement, and U. S. Air Force Academy
The Chairman reported that the legislation for the above named medal stated that the design of this medal shall be determined "solely" by the Secretary of the Treasury. As in the case of the Nevada Medal, requirements for early production would leave no time for submitting the design to the Commission. The members of the Commission expressed a hope that this procedure would not become customary for national medals.

5. Summary Report on Current Activities
The Secretary read a summary he had prepared to cover items of interest to the work of the Commission, after which there was general discussion of the various items. Copy of the paper has been made a part of the official record of the proceedings.
EXHIBITS M-1 and M-2

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

L. R. Wilson
Secretary

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

8 July 1959

ORDER OF BUSINESS

9:15 a.m. 1. CONVENE, ROOM 7000 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

9:30 a.m. 2. GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION-PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE SUBMISSIONS: (Mr. L.L.Hunter, Asst. Commr. for Planning and Design, PBS; Mr. J. R. Snyder, Dir., Arch'l and Structural Div., PBS; Mr. Thomas S. Estes, Deputy Asst. Secretary of State for Operations)

(a) State Department Annex:
(1) 8th Floor Dining Room and Related spaces, Interior designs.

((2) Exterior elevations of South Entrance

(b) Gallaudet College:
(1) Kendall School, Revised plans submitted June 23,1959.

(2) Kendall School, Auditorium

(c) Triangle Area Refrigeration Plant, Revision submitted June 23,1959.

1:00 p.m. Lunch in Interior Department, Secretary's Dining Room

2:15 p.m. 3. NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION -
(a) Study by Interagency Committee on Federal Employee Parking. (Mr. Robert A. Keith).

3:15 p.m. 4. AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION SUBMISSIONS:

(a) Pershing Memorial, Gen. John J. Revised plans submitted June 19,1959.

(b) Ardennes (Neuville) American Military Cemetery-Statue by C. Paul Jennewein.

4:00 p.m. 5. ARMY DEPARTMENT-HERALDIC BRANCH SUBMISSIONS:

(a) Federal Aviation Agency Seal.
(b) Army Medical Service School (Dental) Fairbank Medal
(c) U.S.Air Force Distinguished Service Medal.

Order of Business

1:00 p.m. 1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

4. Report of Officers

5. Report of Committees

(a) Executive Committee

(b) Membership Committee

(c) Publicity Committee

6. Unfinished Business

(a) Proposed Amendment to Constitution

(b) Report of Special Committee on Revision of Constitution

(c) Report of Committee on Revision of By-Laws

7. New Business

(a) Proposed Amendment to Constitution

(b) Proposed Amendment to By-Laws

(c) Resolution Regarding Annual Meeting

8. Adjournment

4:30 p.m. 6. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT.

(a) Revisions and addition to sign regulations as part of D. C. Building Code. District of Columbia Government has favorably received idea of inclusion of Shipstead-Luce Regulations and has requested draft of standards to be used. Shipstead-Luce Panel will cooperate.

4:45 p.m. 7. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY-Bureau of the Mint

(a) Nevada Silver Centennial Medal - These medals were produced by the Treasury Department from dies supplied by the Centennial Commission without review by the Commission of Fine Arts.

(b) Colorado Commemorative Medal for One Hundredth Anniversary of Settlement, and U. S. Air Force Academy Legislation states that design shall be determined "solely" by the Treasury Department, thus avoiding submission to the Commission of Fine Arts.

5:00 p.m. Adjourn

4:30 p.m. 6. [illegible]

(a) [illegible]

4:45 p.m. 7. [illegible]

(a) [illegible]

(b) [illegible]

5:00 p.m. Adjourn.

List of persons appearing before the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on 8 July 1959, for discussion of the following projects:

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE

State Department Annex - 8th floor dining room and reception rooms interior designs

Exterior elevations of south entrance.

L. L. Hunter, Asst. Comm'r. for Planning and Design, PBS
J. R. Snyder, Dir., Architectural and Structural Division, PBS
R. J. Domke, Liaison Architect
T. S. Estes, Deputy Asst. Secretary of State for Operations
Miss Mary Dunn, of Nancy McClelland, Inc. Interior Decorators
H. Melzian, W. B. Ford Associates, Interior Decorators
T. C. Noonan, Architect

Gallaudet College, Kendall School Auditorium

Mr. Hunter and Mr. Snyder of Public Buildings Service;
Ervin G. Von Wald of Thomas H. Locraft & Associates, Architects

Refrigeration Plant in Triangle Area

Frank W. Cole, Architect
J. R. Snyder, PBS

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Study on Federal Employee Parking

Mr. Robert A. Keith

17 June 1959

MEMORANDUM TO: Members
Commission of Fine Arts

FROM:: David E. Finley, Chairman

SUBJECTS: Conference with Director, Bureau of the Budget
Hearings on Supplemental Appropriation
Increase in limit of authorization for Commission of Fine Arts
Procedure in cases of non compliance with executive orders

Yesterday I paid a visit to the Director of the Budget Bureau, Mr. Stans. I called his attention to the refusal of the Bureau of the Budget to grant the supplemental appropriation of $5,000 requested on April 2nd which was needed to increase the travel funds for the members of the Commission of Fine Arts. I left with him a copy of an editorial entitled "The Lid Needs Lifting" which appeared in The Evening Star of Washington, severely criticizing such procedure on the part of the Government. Mr. Stans did not recall the circumstances but the young man who had handled the matter, Mr. McKittrick, was present in the office, and I feel the visit, insofar as he was concerned, will be salutary.

I asked Mr. Stans for his advice as to what procedure we should follow in cases wherethe officials of the Federal and District of Columbia governments do not submit plans of buildings, etc., to the Commission of Fine Arts for advice as required by law, before a contract is let. He said he would be very glad to have us call such cases to his attention and he would take steps to correct such omissions. I feel this should be helpful in preventing by-passing of the Commission, especially on the part of new government officials who may, in some cases, do so unintentionally.

Yesterday afternoon I went to the Hearing before the Subcommittee for Supplemental Appropriations for Independent Agencies, at the House of Representatives. We asked for an increase of $5,000 for the fiscal year 1960 in order to cover necessary travel allowances. I assume this request will be granted.

We have also sent a letter to both the Vice President and the Speaker of of the House requesting that a bill be introduced to remove the limit of authorization of $35,000 from the Commission's appropriations. This is necessary in view of the fact that our appropriation for last year was $37,800, and the authorization should of course be increased.

I shall look forward to seeing you on the afternoon of July 7th and at the meeting on the following day.

Dist. List: Mr. deWeldon Mr. Orr Mr. Rapuano
Mr. Hurd Mr. Perry Mr. Walker

EXHIBIT A

17 July 1959

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

At its meeting on 8 July 1959, the Commission of Fine Arts was glad to consider the revised designs for the interiors of the anteroom, State dining room, and drawing room, that are to be constructed on the eighth floor of the State Department annex. The members of the Commission were very favorably impressed with the designs which were explained in detail by Miss Mary Dunn for the associated decorating firms of W.B.Ford, Detroit, and Nancy McClelland, Inc., New York, in the presence of representatives of the State Department and the Public Buildings Service.

There was general agreement among those present that the architectural features are in good scale and that the materials and colors used in the designs give promise for rooms of dignity and beauty that will compare favorably with other final official rooms of similar character in Washington, and the Commission of Fine Arts approved the scheme of decoration.

The drawings, of course, are still in sketch form and there were certain details which the Commission believes can be improved with further study. It is believed that thedesign of the end wall will benefit from having the doors centered in the panels flanking the east end of the dining room; and that lighting from a chandelier is preferable to the scheme for recessed spot lights in the ceiling of the drawing room; also that a chair of recognized American Chippendale form is more suitable than the type shown in the sketches. These matters were discussed with the designers who will show us changes in the design as further progress is done on the drawings.

The next meeting of the Commission is on August 19th and we will save time for further submission at that time if the designs will be ready.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable R.G.Macy
Commissioner
Public Buildings Service, GSA
Washington 25, D.C.

cc: Asst Commissioner for Design and Constr., PBS
Director, Arch. & Structural Div., PBS

EXHIBIT B

16 July 1959

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

I am writing to confirm that the members of the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved the revised drawings for Kendall School, Gallaudet College, at a meeting held on 8 July 1959. The new drawings showed restudy of the ends of the pavilions, incorporating changes that were conveyed to Mr. Snyder after being reviewed by the Commission at its meeting on 26 May 1959.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

L. R. Wilson
Secretary

Commissioner of Public Buildings
Service
General Services Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

cc to: Ass't. Comm'r. for Design
& Construction, PBS
Director, Arch'l. &
Structural Division, PBS

EXHIBIT C

11 July 1939

Commissioner of Public Buildings
Service
Public Buildings Service
General Services Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

I am writing to confirm that the Commission of Fine Arts considered the preliminary plans for an auditorium at Gallaudet College at its meeting on 8 July 1939. Mr. J. Rowland Snyder, Director, Architectural and Structural Division, and Mr. Erwin G. Von Wald of the architect's office, presented the design drawings and explained the details of the design. The members of the Commission approved the design. They felt that the architectural solution of the problem and the relation of materials to the older buildings were especially well-handled.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

L. R. Wilson
Secretary

cc Director, Arch'l. &
Structural Division, PBS
Ass't. Comm'r. for Design
& Construction, PBS

EXHIBIT D

16 July 1957

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

I am writing to confirm that Mr. Leonard Snyder, Director, Architectural and Structural Division, Public Buildings Service, and Mr. Frank Cole, architect, met with the members of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on July 11th to consider further proposals for the location and design of a cooling tower for the buildings in the Federal Triangle.

We were sorry to learn that it has not been possible to move this bulky feature to a nearby space north of Pennsylvania Avenue where there would be an opportunity to develop a structure that would be both functional and in keeping with the architecture of the Federal Triangle. After a discussion of other possibilities, such as the building courts and other open spaces in the area, we are still strongly of the opinion that the courts of the Triangle buildings should not be filled and blocked with such equipment. We concede, however, that this equipment might, as a last resort, be located within the space reserved for future buildings on the north side of the Great Plaza immediately south of the existing buildings now occupied by the Coast Guard and the District of Columbia Government.

The scheme for the cooling tower at this location, which Mr. Snyder and Mr. Cole showed us, occupied space approximately in this area. The scheme contemplated building the compressors and pumps underground, and erecting a tower that could be incorporated at a later date into the walls of the future building on this site, in accordance with the original designs for the completion of the Federal Triangle. The development of the design for such a temporary cooling tower will require the greatest care, but the members of the Commission agreed to recommend proceeding with this scheme, provided steps will be taken at the same time to remove the parking lot from the Great Plaza and to landscape it suitably.

The members of the Commission are grateful for the opportunity to see this project in its early stage, and for the thoughtfulness with which Mr. Snyder and Mr. Cole are studying the possibilities. We will

EXHIBIT E

EXHIBIT E

21 July 1959

Dear General North:

The Commission of Fine Arts were very favorably impressed with Mr. Harrison's new scheme for the Pershing Memorial at its meeting on July 8th, and approved the general character and composition of the new design. The design gives promise for a monument of great dignity and beauty.

Before giving our final approval, however, we hope that a further study can be made of the alignment of the wall monument and the cascades so as to fix the longitudinal axis on a line bisecting the angle bounded by E Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The vista looking west on Pennsylvania Avenue would benefit from such a shift, and the garden plots flanking the cascading pools would be more equal. To do this will also incorporate the elements of the composition into the natural slope of the terrain in this section of the city.

We also believe that the stone wall on the 15th Street side might be slightly curved and the effigy of General Pershing incorporated into a high-relief on its surface. The bronze figure of the General seems lost in the present composition, and is overpowered by the wall, which at certain times of the day would cast a shadow over part of it.

We hope that you will convey these ideas to the architect for his consideration and will inform us of his opinion. We will be meeting again on August 19th and will be glad to consider the matter again at that time if you desire.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Major General Thomas North
Secretary
American Battle Monuments Commission
Room 2080 Main Navy Building
Washington 25, D. C.

lrw/b

EXHIBIT F

17 July 1950

Dear General North:

The Commission of Fine Arts has carefully considered the model of the free standing figure created by Mr. Paul Jennewein for the north side of the Chapel in the American Cemetery at Neuville, France. While in itself a work of great refinement and grace, the consensus of the Commission is that the figure does not possess the appropriate form and character for the location and use intended at Neuville.

The Commission therefore recommends that Mr. Jennewein's figure be placed in a suitable setting in some other memorial cemetery and that if free standing sculpture is desired at Neuville, that a figure of greater vigor and strength be carved in stone.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Major General Thomas North
Secretary
American Battle Monuments Commission
Room 2080 Main Navy Building
Washington 25, D. C.

lrw/b

EXHIBIT G

Lt. Col. James S. Cook, Jr.
Chief, Heraldic Branch
Quartermaster Central Office
Department of the Army
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Colonel Cook:

I am writing to confirm that the Commission of Fine Arts could not approve the design for the Fairbank Medal as it was submitted. The members considered that the designs of both obverse and reverse had little of the sculptural character and composition that is expected in medals of this type, and they recommended restudy, and submit the following comments for use in making changes:

(a) Obverse:

1. Finely designed lettering of one size should be used around circumference.

2. There should be finer detail in insignia, and possibly some simplification and reduction in size.

(b) Reverse:

1. Finely detailed lettering should run around medal.

2. The words "OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT" do not tie into the composition.

3. The effigy should be larger, and show the head only, in profile.

We are sure that you can effect changes that will greatly improve the design, and will be glad to work with you in developing a suitable medal.

Sincerely yours,

L. R. Wilson
Secretary

EXHIBIT H

Lt. Col. James S. Cook, jr.
Chief, Heraldic Branch, OQMG
Department of the Army, Washington 25

29 July 1959

L. R. Wilson
Secretary, Commission of Fine Arts

Design for Air Force Distinguished Service Medal.

I am returning herewith three designs for the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, which seem to have been overlooked when the others were returned. None of these designs appeared to have the quality which the Commission would like to see in the medal. In fact, after looking at them the members recommended a study of a standing eagle, filling the area of the medal, which Mr. Jones presented in a charcoal sketch.

As I mentioned in my telephone conversation today, Colonel Norton, Mr. Peters and Miss Cox discussed this problem in my office this morning. We were sorry you could not be here. Miss Cox is now going to make some more sketches, and I hope Mr. Jones will also. Perhaps he and I can talk the matter over to save time. Someone from the Air Force will also talk to you about it.

The next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts is on August 19th. I wonder if we can have some designs by the 17th of August.

L. R. Wilson
Secretary

lrw/b

EXHIBIT I

The Commission was not asked to advise as regards the site for the monument. It had previously recommended in 1944 that the Navies Tract should be incorporated into Arlington National Cemetery.

The Commission believes that the Navies Tract would be unduly crowded with a monument of the scale of the Freedom Shrine in addition to the Iwo Jima Monument of the Marine Corps and the Netherlands Carillon which is to be erected on this site. If the Freedom Shrine is erected on the Navies Tract, it would continue the axis from the Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial across the river to the Freedom Shrine. We believe this would be unfortunate as regards the Lincoln Memorial and that the axis should not be extended across the river. Furthermore, there would seem to be no adequate space for parking in the neighborhood of the Freedom Shrine.

The Commission would be glad to see this monument erected at some other suitable place in Washington or elsewhere where the monument would have a proper setting and be a shrine to draw many visitors.

EXHIBIT J

26 August 1959

Dear Mr. Keith:

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts were glad to discuss with you the problem arising from the necessity of handling the great number of motor cars that park daily throughout the city, and the resultant unsightly appearance of the parking lots that have sprung up in the governmental area and elsewhere. A survey of this problem by the special committee, of which you are a member, will undoubtedly produce a most valuable contribution for correction and alleviation of some of the blight that parking lots have spread over some of the city's most important areas.

We hope that strong recommendations will be made by your committee to remove car parking from the Great Plaza in the Federal Triangle, and from the slopes below the Washington Monument east of 17th Street. The removal of the temporary buildings in this latter area is, of course, also a most desirable and related effort. These two sites are the most flagrant examples of undesirable use of Federal property. There are other examples but the removal of these two parking lots will certainly point the way to the removal or control of many others.

The Commission recognizes that some means to park cars must be provided, and they are sure that many ways can be developed to lessen the barren blight on the city. Some private organizations, such as the Riggs National Bank, have voluntarily expended special effort to make their private parking lots attractive. Order and neatness in planning the lot, together with the use of shrubs and simple but attractive attendants' booth and signs have produced noteworthy results. Similar rules for all parking lots could be put into effect all over the city with great improvement in appearance.

The Commission will await with great interest the findings of your committee's survey and will be glad to assist further if you desire.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

by L.R. Wilson
Secretary

Mr. Robert A. Keith
Interagency Committee on
Federal Employee Parking
Interior Department Building
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT K

13 July 1959

Mr. Julian P. Green
Chief, Permit Branch
108 District Building
Washington 4, D. C.

Dear Mr. Green:

In reply to your letter of 18 June, I am enclosing a draft for a section in the D. C. Sign Regulations to cover the design of signs in the Shipstead-Luce area. We will be grateful if you will take steps to see if it can be included when the D. C. Sign Regulations are revised.

The Shipstead-Luce Panel of Architects and the Commission of Fine Arts have both approved of this action and hope it can be accomplished.

Sincerely yours,

L. R. Wilson
Secretary

Enclosure

EXHIBIT L

JUL 13 1959

(1) All applications for permits to erect signs, within the meaning of these regulations, on buildings or land in areas falling within the Act of Congress approved May 16, 1930, known as the Shipstead-Luce Act, shall be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts before permit is issued.

In addition to compliance with all other applicable provisions of these regulations, signs within the meaning of the foregoing act shall comply with these additional requirements:

(a) Projecting signs as provided for in Article 14101, roof signs and revolving signs as provided for in Article 14102 of these regulations shall not be permitted. The maximum projection allowed shall be limited to not more than 12".

(b) Single-faced signs only shall be permitted upon the exterior walls of buildings, and all signs shall be stationary within the Shipstead-Luce Act area.

(c) Exposed source of illumination shall be prohibited on signs within the Shipstead-Luce Act area. Illuminated signs shall consist of free-standing, back-lighted, opaque letters, illuminated by steady light.

(d) Area of signs within the Shipstead-Luce Act jurisdiction will be limited to 25 square feet.

(e) Copy on signs shall be limited to the name of establishment, and type of business conducted.

(f) Color(s) of sign and illumination shall be subject to the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts.

(2) Any variance from the foregoing requirements may be granted only with the special approval by the Commission of Fine Arts.

Copy forwarded to CFA with memo dtd 7/16/59
" given to SL Panel at meet. on 7/17/59

EXHIBIT L

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL, COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

SUBJECT: [illegible] ACTIVITIES.

GREAT PLAZA (letter dated April 16,1959 to Commission from Administrator of General Services Administration, and letter dated May 11,1959 from Department of Commerce)

Letters support action of Commission in effort to remove open air garage and have area made into a park by the National Capital Parks.

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION (letter dated April 23,1959, from Commission of Fine Arts to ABMC re resubmission of West and East Coast and Pershing Memorials).

[illegible] that the West Coast Memorial, which is now completed and beyond revision, and regretted oversight in resubmission.

The East Coast [illegible] is still in design stage and design of eagle, the central motif, was submitted in photograph, and approval at the May 21 meeting.

EXPOSITION-CONVENTION-SPORTS ARENA in downtown Washington. (Letter of April 30, 1959 from a New York attorney, Marvin I Edelstein, requesting views of Commission on proposed erection of exposition-convention-sports arena in downtown Washington)

The westernmost portion of this large element borders the Shipstead-Luce area at Tenth Street. No request for advice or opportunity to see drawing has yet been made.

PROPOSED PENTAGON CITY DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH ARLINGTON.

The Arlington County Board took negative action on the Pentagon City development, based on recommendations of the Commission of Fine Arts that Shipstead-Luce standards be used as criteria.

PROPOSED BUS SHELTERS FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Chairman has conferred with the Engineering Commissioner regarding District approval of bus shelters in certain areas of the city in lieu of a standard design suitable for any part of the city. His action was taken because of inability of designer to produce an acceptable design.

LETTER FROM MR. J. R. WIGGINS, EDITOR, WASHINGTON POST AND TIMES HERALD EXPRESSING HIS CONCERN OVER ROCK STRUCTURES IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Editor of the Washington Post raised the problem which has deeply concerned the Commission for many years and the Chairman took up the matter with the Engineer Commissioner who would have jurisdiction over any contemplated change in building requirements.

GENERAL JOHN J. PERSHING MEMORIAL (Letter of June 6, 1955, from Lt. Col. John Lambert, Secretary, General Pershing Memorial Committee, The American Legion, George Washington Post #1).

This letter is notice of American Legion, George Washington Post #1, that it is contemplated to submit its own design for a Pershing Memorial and to raise funds to do same. The American Battle Monuments Commission was not cognizant of this project which parallels the one authorized for the American Battle Monuments Commission by Congress.

NON COMPLIANCE WITH COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS MEMORIAL ORDER

National Library of Medicine. The Chairman wrote to the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare regarding the failure to submit a design for the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. The Department of Health, Education and Welfare places onus for omission on Public Buildings Service, General Services Administration in Letter of 30 June 1954.

Tenley Branch Public Library, Wisconsin Avenue and Albemarle Street. The District of Columbia Department of Buildings and Grounds let the contract for the Tenley Branch Public Library without submission for review of the final design.

National Capital Parks. The Chairman discussed with the Superintendent of National Capital Parks failure of his office to submit designs for buildings in Rock Creek Park such as: (1) riding stables; (2) a Nature Center; (3) a small bridge, before letting contracts for erection.

PLAQUES FOR WOODROW WILSON MEMORIAL BRIDGE

Designs for memorial plaques on east and west face of Operator's Tower will be submitted in due course. Sculptor and theme not yet chosen.

FEDERAL CITY COUNCIL-Action Report for downtown Washington

The Chairman and Secretary attended a lunch at which plans to rejuvenate deterioration of the downtown area of Washington were initiated. Although half the perimeter of the area falls under the Shipstead-Luce Act no mention was made of the role of the Commission of Fine Arts.

L.R.Wilson
Secretary

7 July 1955

EXHIBIT M-2